

BUFFALO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

1756 - 1981

225 Years of Christian Service

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PRESENTED BY

Rev. Edsel M. Huffstetler

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BUFFALO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1756 - 1981

225 Years of Christian Service

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY

Moir M. Ayers

Much information for this work was taken from *History of Buffalo Presbyterian Church And Her People* by the Rev. S.M. Rankin and from the Sessional Records of the church.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Mr. Moir M. Ayers, Mrs. Edward W. Fishburne, Mr. H. Clay Lambeth,
Mrs. Thomas E. McKnight, Jr., and the Rev. Edsel M. Huffstetler.**

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sources**



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This Pictorial History of Buffalo Presbyterian Church is presented to remind us of the rich heritage of the past two hundred and twenty-five years, and to make us more aware of the Rock from which we are hewn. It is dedicated to the thousands of worshipers who have rendered faithful service to Him over these many years, mindful of the promise that our Heavenly Father will attend us if we honor Him.

**"How amiable are thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts!"
— Psalm 84:1**

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BUFFALO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Brief History of Buffalo Church

The people who settled here at Buffalo were a sturdy Scottish-Irish stock who took an active part and wielded great influence in the formative period of the history of the United States. These men and women were true Christians. Having been through much religious persecution, they came looking for a place where they could worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience.

There was a constant emigration from Scotland to Ireland from 1610 to 1688. The greatest number emigrated between 1610 and 1625, and no doubt the ancestors of many of the people of Buffalo came into Ireland at that time. Conditions were favorable for them for more than a generation. Then the English Parliament began inflicting economic trials upon them, virtually depriving them of their civil rights. By 1714 laws had been passed denying them their church and religious rights and living in Ireland became almost unbearable. As soon as they were able to secure passage, they made their way to America where they located first in New England and later (1720) in Philadelphia. From 1740 to 1750 they came into Pennsylvania at the rate of ten thousand per year.

The first settlers of the Buffalo community came from the Nottingham Colony of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Agents from the Nottingham Company were sent to survey and secure rights from the Earl of Granville for thirty-three plots of land lying on the waters of North Buffalo and Reedy Fork Creeks. The land consisted of 21,120 acres but there were no settlers on it before these people came. There must have been about nineteen families in the company that actually located here.

The people did not completely own the land because the Earl of Granville retained an interest in it. The contract required them to pay a nominal sum to bind the trade, to make certain improvements on the land, and to pay an annual rent of three shillings per hundred acres. The rent was paid in equal, semi-annual installments probably in the spring and fall.

The exact date of the coming of the colony cannot be established. It may have been 1751 when arrangements were made; on the other hand, the settlers might have come in 1752 and failed to get their grants of land until 1753. However, because of the dates of deeds in December, 1753, it appears they arrived here in the summer of 1753.

The first recorded preaching service in this community on August 31, 1775, was conducted by the Reverend Hugh McAden, a missionary from Pennsylvania. On the previous Sabbath, Mr. McAden had preached at Hawfields in Alamance County. This would have been two years after the colony had settled here. Other missionaries had visited here before and after Mr. McAden but the dates of their visits were not recorded.

We have no record of the exact date of the organization of the Buffalo Church. Rev. J.C. Alexander, who was pastor of the church from 1861 to 1886, wrote a sketch of the church in which he states that it was organized in 1756. Others who made a study of the Presbyterian history of North Carolina, and especially Orange Presbytery, state that Buffalo was organized in 1756 and that it was supplied by missionaries until Dr. David Caldwell came in 1765.



Graves of David and Rachel Caldwell

PASTORS

DR. DAVID CALDWELL

1768 - 1820

Dr. David Caldwell, the first pastor of Buffalo Church, was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, March 22, 1725. He graduated from Princeton University in 1761 and taught school at Cape May for one year while he studied theology. He returned to Princeton in 1762 where he was employed as a tutor in the college, and where he also continued his studies in preparation for the ministry. On August 18, 1763, he was licensed to preach and was appointed to supply some small churches in New Jersey. In 1764 he was sent by the Synod of Philadelphia as a missionary to North Carolina and while here supplied Buffalo and Alamance Churches. In the spring of 1765, he went back to New Jersey and carried with him a call from Buffalo and Alamance. On July 6, 1765, he was ordained by New Brunswick Presbytery and dismissed to New Hanover Presbytery of Virginia, which at that time had jurisdiction over all the territory of North Carolina. By appointment of the Presbytery, the Reverend Hugh McAden preached the installation sermon on March 3, 1768, installing Dr. Caldwell as pastor of Alamance and Buffalo.

David Caldwell married Rachel Craighead, the third daughter of the Reverend Alexander Craighead who was pastor of a group of churches in Mecklenburg County. He had known her as a little girl in Pennsylvania. David and Rachel Caldwell had twelve children, four of whom died in infancy. Rachel Caldwell was a courageous and capable woman. She found time to assist her husband, her children, and neighbors and friends in time of need. In the trying days of the Revolutionary War, when her husband was away from home, she showed great courage and dedication in caring for others. Rachel Caldwell died in 1825.

There is no way to measure the good done by David Caldwell. He served Buffalo for fifty-six years. He was a strong preacher, a sympathetic pastor, a great patriot, an efficient physician, a wise counselor, a statesman, and an outstanding teacher in church and state, loving and loved by his people.

In the book, *A Sketch of the Life and Character of the Rev. David Caldwell, D.D.* by the Rev. E.W. Caruthers, we read: "It is said that Dr. Caldwell was never known to be in a passion, to show a revengeful spirit, or to lose his self possession; but the most striking trait in his character, perhaps, was that of overcoming evil with good; and so much was this a habit with him as to give rise and currency to the remark that no man ever did Dr. Caldwell an injury without receiving some expression of kindness in return." He died August 25, 1824, lacking seven months of being one hundred years of age. He is buried in the Buffalo Cemetery.



DR. ELI W. CARUTHERS
1820 - 1846

Dr. Eli W. Caruthers, the second pastor, was born in Rowan County, North Carolina, October 26, 1799, and was reared in Thyatira Church. He was educated at Princeton University where he graduated in 1817. Dr. Caruthers paid a visit to Dr. Caldwell in 1819, and while here was asked to preach at Alamance Church. The pastor and people were so well-pleased with the young minister that he was employed as Dr. Caldwell's assistant. In 1820 when Dr. Caldwell retired from active work, the churches of Alamance and Buffalo called Dr. Caruthers as their pastor. He was ordained and installed in the fall of 1820. In the spring of 1846 he resigned as pastor of Buffalo and gave full time to Alamance. He resigned as pastor of Alamance in 1861 because of feeble health.

We owe a great debt of gratitude to Dr. Caruthers. Most of what we know about Dr. Caldwell and the Revolutionary War in this area was the result of the writings of Dr. Caruthers. He was a well-educated man, and was awarded the degree of Doctor of Divinity by the University of North Carolina. He was a man with strong convictions enabling him to be a good preacher. He never married. For a number of years he lived in Greensboro and taught in the old Greensboro Academy, and then later in Greensboro High School. Dr. Caruthers died on November 11, 1865. He is buried in the Alamance Cemetery.



THE REV. CYRUS K. CALDWELL
1847 - 1859

Cyrus K. Caldwell, the third pastor, was born in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina in 1821, the son of the Reverend S.C. Caldwell and grandson of Dr. David Caldwell. He was educated at Davidson College and Union Theological Seminary. In January, 1847, he came to supply Buffalo Church, and was subsequently called as its pastor where he was ordained and installed the following December 14. He married Julia, daughter of ruling elder David Wharton, in 1849. She died within a few months after their marriage. In 1855 he married Fannie A. McKinly and they lived at what was known as the Spruce Place on the south side of North Buffalo Creek. He resigned this pastorate in 1859, and was the pastor of a church in Pittsboro, North Carolina from 1860 to 1866. In his latter years he moved to Tennessee and became the pastor of the Denmark Church which he served until his death on March 29, 1876. The Reverend Cyrus K. Caldwell is buried in Jackson, Tennessee.



THE REV. JAMES CALVIN ALEXANDER
1861 - 1886

The Reverend James Calvin Alexander, the fourth pastor of Buffalo Church was born in Fancy Hill, Lincoln County, North Carolina, October 2, 1831. He was educated at Davidson College, Union Theological Seminary, and also Columbia Theological Seminary where he graduated in 1859. He was licensed by Concord Presbytery, and supplied Ramah Church. In the spring of 1861 Buffalo and Bethel Churches called him as pastor and he was ordained and installed at Buffalo on July 21, 1861.

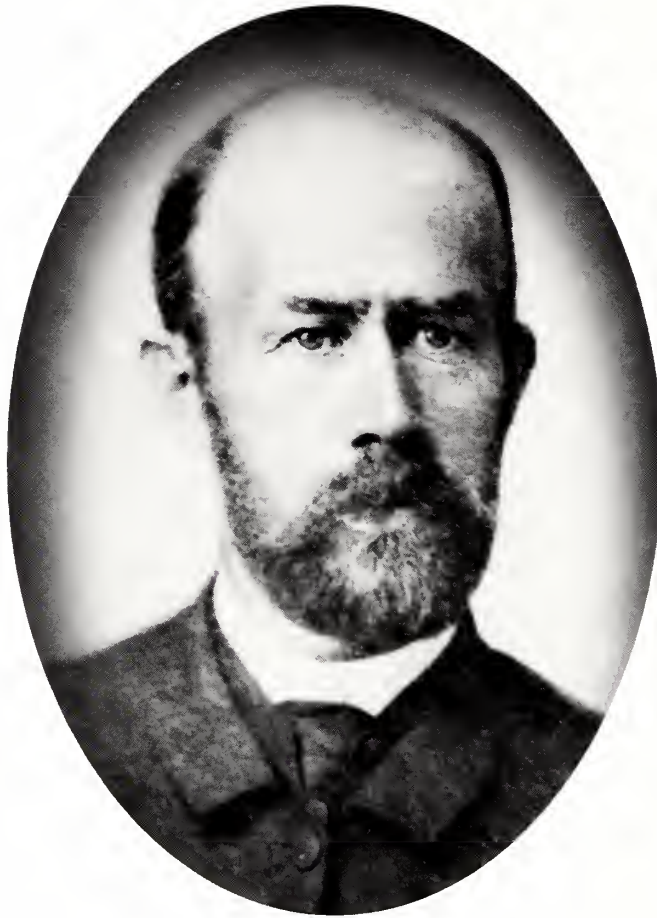
Mr. Alexander was a much beloved pastor. He had many calls to other churches, but the people made such strong protests that he would not leave. He had the rare combination of being both a good preacher and a strong pastor. Since he was well-liked by the young people as well as the old, Mr. Alexander was included in much of the social life of the community. He was a leader and an example in the Presbytery. When there were hard problems to solve, his brethren always sought his counsel. He served as moderator of the Presbytery twice, and of the Synod once. He died suddenly on November 15, 1886, and is buried in the beautiful Buffalo Cemetery.

Rosa Alexander Carruthers, a descendant of James Calvin Alexander, is an active member of the congregation today.



THE REV. RICHARD WATT CULBERTSON
1887 - 1892

Our fifth pastor, the Reverend Richard Watt Culbertson was born in Woodleaf, Rowan County, North Carolina, March 26, 1860. After graduating from Davidson College in 1883, he taught in the public schools. He graduated from Union Theological Seminary in 1887. He received a call from Buffalo Church October 2, 1887, and was ordained and installed on November 19. Mr. Culbertson had a short pastorate of only five years, but he made many contributions during that period. He was a forceful preacher and a tireless worker. The Midway Church was organized, the church building erected, and the manse at Bessemer built during this short period. In the spring of 1892 he accepted a call to the Hawfields and Cross Road Churches. After a successful pastorate at Hawfields, he moved to Concord Presbytery and was pastor of the Center and Prospect Churches from 1908 to 1915. From 1915 to 1920 he was pastor of Poplar Tent and Gilwood. He moved to Mecklenburg Presbytery where he was pastor of the Central Steele Creek and Pleasant Hill Churches from 1920 to 1930. He died in 1932 and is buried in Mooresville, North Carolina.



THE REV. JOSIAH McLEOD SEABROOK
1892 - 1904

The Reverend Josiah McLeod Seabrook, the sixth pastor, was born on James Island, South Carolina, in 1852. He graduated from Davidson College in 1877, and from Columbia Theological Seminary in 1880. He was ordained by Lexington Presbytery of Virginia in 1881 and held several pastorates in Virginia and South Carolina before coming to Buffalo Church. Mr. Seabrook was forty years old when he was called as pastor on July 17, 1892, and he served faithfully until the fall of 1904. It is interesting to note that he was the first pastor who was not a young man just out of school when called to this church. His ministry proved to be a happy one, and he was loved by the people. After leaving Buffalo he served Gordonsville and Wills Memorial Churches in Virginia. He died in 1905.



THE REV. JAMES WILLIAM GOODMAN
1905 - 1911

The Reverend James William Goodman, the seventh pastor, was born in Rowan County, North Carolina, December 26, 1867. He was reared in Thyatira Church where his father was a ruling elder. He graduated from Davidson College in 1895, and from Union Theological Seminary in 1898. Mr. Goodman was ordained by Orange Presbytery September 29, 1898, and installed as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in High Point, which he served until 1900. In January, 1905, he was called to Buffalo, Midway, and Bessemer Churches, and served Buffalo until November, 1911. He accepted a call to the Hawfields Church and served there until 1917. Later he accepted a call to the Antioch Church in the Fayetteville Presbytery where he served until his death in 1924. He is buried in the Thyatira Cemetery.



THE REV. GEORGE W. OLDHAM
1912 - 1913

The Reverend George Oldham, our eighth pastor, was born in Orange County, North Carolina, November 20, 1879, the son of the late Thomas J. Oldham, a ruling elder in the Bethlehem Church. He graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1904, and from Union Theological Seminary in 1912. That same year he was called by Buffalo in April, ordained September 26, and installed as pastor October 20. Mr. Oldham served Buffalo for only one year, the shortest pastorate in the long history of the church. He resigned in July, 1913 to accept a call to the Yanceyville group of churches, which he served until 1921. He died September 9, 1964.



DR. ELI FRANKLIN LEE
1913 - 1923

Dr. Eli Franklin Lee, our ninth pastor, was born in Sampson County, North Carolina in 1878, and was reared in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He received his education at Trinity College (now Duke University) and Union Theological Seminary, New York, from which he graduated in 1905. He united with the Northern Presbyterian Church and preached in and around New York City. Dr. Lee moved south to accept work in Birmingham, Alabama, but shortly afterwards was called to Buffalo Church. During his ten years of service at Buffalo, two hundred and eleven new members were added to the roll. In 1924 he united with the North Carolina Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Dr. Lee served several Methodist churches before his death in Durham, June 7, 1930.



THE REV. ALBERT PICKETT DICKSON

1924 - 1956

Our tenth pastor, the Reverend Albert Pickett Dickson, was born in Raeford, North Carolina, September 5, 1886, the son of Dr. A.P. Dickson, Sr., a ruling elder in the Raeford Presbyterian Church. He graduated from Davidson College in 1909 and from Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia in 1915. His first pastorate, from 1915 to 1919, was at Williamsville, Virginia. His second pastorate was in Franklin, West Virginia. In May, 1924, Mr. Dickson was called by the Buffalo congregation to be the pastor, and his first service here was on July 13, but he was not installed until November 30, 1924.

Many events in Buffalo history took place during the Dickson years. The Manse on the corner of Church and Sixteenth Streets was built in the 1920's, and the Rachel Caldwell Educational Building was constructed in the early 1950's. More than two hundred members were added to the rolls during the first nine years of Mr. Dickson's pastorate, and the church felt secure during this period of history. The second World War began and the Buffalo people were a vital part of that terrible war.

Mr. Dickson was an excellent student, a great Bible teacher, an authority on current events, a lover of nature, and a kind and lovable person. Mrs. Dickson, nee Maude Bragg, was a great source of help to her husband, and from this union came Dr. Albert Pickett Dickson, III, a physician practicing in Newland, North Carolina, and a daughter, Maude Baker, who resides in Kentucky. Mr. Dickson retired in September, 1956 after thirty-two years of faithful service at Buffalo. He died on July 26, 1974 and is buried in Plum Tree, North Carolina.



THE REV. EDWARD LEE WILLINGHAM, III
1957 - 1962

The late 1950's brought change and excitement to our church. Our eleventh pastor, the Reverend Edward Lee Willingham, III came to us in crucial times and was equal to the situation.

Mr. Willingham was born in Augusta, Georgia, December 6, 1927. He graduated from Davidson College in 1948 and later from Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia in 1951. His first pastorate was with the Hollywood and Chicod Presbyterian Churches near Greenville, North Carolina. A call was issued to him in January, 1957 and he preached his first sermon at Buffalo on April 5, 1957. He was a strong preacher and an effective pastor. He had a splendid tenor voice and also played the piano. Mr. Willingham was beloved by the congregation. The church grew from 374 members to 515 during his five years as pastor. Special emphasis was given to missionary work and a strong appeal was made for the members to consider full-time Christian service. Two business men, Raymon L. White and Samuel R. Williams, left their profitable businesses and went into the Christian ministry.

Mr. Willingham was married to the former Patricia Donnell from Goldsboro, whose grandparents, great-grandparents, and great-great-grandparents are buried in Buffalo Cemetery. Patricia Donnell is actually a descendant from the early settlers who came with the Nottingham Colony. Pat was active in the Choir, Women of the Church work, and in many other phases of the work of the church. In March, 1962, Mr. Willingham accepted a call to the Columbia Prebyterian Church in Decatur, Georgia.



THE REV. GRAY WATSON HAMPTON, JR.
1962 - 1968

The Rev. Gray Watson Hampton, Jr., the twelfth pastor of Buffalo Presbyterian Church, was born in Huntington, West Virginia on April 10, 1928. He graduated from Davidson College in 1951, and after graduation was employed by Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company in Charlotte, North Carolina. On leaving Southern Bell, he served as an officer in the United States Navy, traveling to the South Pole, Japan, Australia and many parts of the world. In June 1960 he had the unusual distinction of receiving both his Bachelor of Divinity Degree from Union Theological Seminary and his Master of Christian Education Degree from the Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond. Mr. Hampton's first pastorate was at the Sunset Hills Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, North Carolina. A call was issued to him in September 1962 and he preached his first sermon here, November 4, 1962.

During Mr. Hampton's pastorate, the church liquidated the debt of remodeling and extending the sanctuary, and also built the new David Caldwell Building. He was instrumental in establishing a week-day kindergarten and a church library. He was a dedicated minister and a fine Christian man. Mr. Hampton is married to the former Julia Ralston, whose father was Dr. Holmes Ralston. Dr. Ralston served with the Board of Christian Education in Richmond, Virginia.

In March, 1968, Mr. Hampton accepted a call to become Associate Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Huntington, West Virginia.



THE REV. EDESEL MARION HUFFSTETLER

1969 -

Edsel Marion Huffstetler, our thirteenth and present pastor, was born March 29, 1923 at Tuckasee, near Mount Holly, North Carolina. He was the third of seven children born to George Graham and Jennie Lee Carpenter Huffstetler. He graduated from Belmont High School in Belmont, North Carolina in the year 1940.

He was married to a high school classmate, the former Mildred Alyne Helms, and to them were born three children: Edsel Marion, Jr., Karen Helms (Mrs. Larry T. Parsons) and Jonathan Lee.

At the age of twenty-five he made a commitment of his life to Christ, and within fifteen months of his conversion he had been approved as a candidate for the ministry by Kings Mountain Presbytery and enrolled in Presbyterian College at Clinton, South Carolina. During his four years at Presbyterian College he served as student pastor of the St. Paul's Presbyterian Chapel of Chester, South Carolina. He graduated from Presbyterian College in the year 1953 and moved to Decatur, Georgia to enroll in Columbia Theological Seminary.

During his three years at Columbia Seminary he served as student pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Barnesville, Georgia and Calvary Presbyterian Church of Elberton, Georgia. After graduation from Seminary in 1956 he moved back to Chester, South Carolina to become pastor of what had become St. Paul's Presbyterian Church. He was ordained to the ministry on July 22, 1956 by Bethel Presbytery and installed as pastor of St. Paul's Church.

In 1958, Mr. Huffstetler moved from Chester to become pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Ellerbe, North Carolina where he stayed six years. In 1964 he moved to Panama City, Florida to become pastor of the St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, serving there for four and one-half years.

In November, 1968, he accepted the call to become pastor of Buffalo Church. He preached his first sermon here on Sunday, January 19, 1969 and was installed as pastor by Orange Presbytery on February 16.

Mr. Huffstetler became pastor of Buffalo at an age beyond that of any of his predecessors. At the completion of his twelfth year he will be tied with two other pastors for the fifth longest pastorate of the thirteen.

Under his leadership significant progress has been made in the area of stewardship. The per capita giving of the congregation has increased by 122 per cent. Indebtedness of the David Caldwell Building (completed about two years prior to his arrival) has been retired, with payments during these twelve years amounting to more than \$230,000.00. Special gifts to the cause of World Missions have increased from \$800.00 the first year to a goal of \$11,000.00 in this twelfth year.



The Manse



The Rev. and Mrs. Edsel M. Huffstetler

MUSIC AT BUFFALO

Music has always been a vital part of the worship at Buffalo Church. In the early years, only the Psalms of David in meter were used, while our sister church, Alamance, sang the melodious strains of the hymns of Issac Watts. Buffalo held to the Old Side, the conservatives, in the bitter division in the Presbyterian Church in 1741, largely on the subject of revivals, while Alamance held to the New Side. After the Great Revival of 1800, Buffalo used the Watts hymns for many years. Since that time hymnals approved by our assembly have been used. In the early days members of the congregation owned their hymn books and carried them to and from the church services.

For a hundred years the session selected a precentor or clerk to lead the music. He stood in front of the pulpit and directed the singing, reading two lines of the hymns at a time. This was necessary because of the scarcity of books. One such clerk was William D. Wharton who was only fifteen years old when he was chosen to lead. He held this position from 1855 to 1907. How remarkable.

No musical instrument was used until 1886, when the first organ was played by Mary Lee Wharton, daughter of William D. Wharton. Other early organists were Miss Mamie McMillan, Mrs. James R.A. Wilson, and Mrs. J.I. Medearis whose son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. John Medearis, continue their dedicated service as soloists and leaders in the choir. Mrs. George Oldham and Mrs. T.N. Sellars were also organists in the early years.

In 1920 a fine upright piano was bought and Miss Mary Hendrix and Mrs. E. Frank Lee played. Other organists were Mrs. Linda Hendrix Gorrell, Miss Virginia Fields, Miss Catherine Wharton, Miss Mildred Knight and Mrs. R.E. Morrisett. Mrs. J. Lawson Dick served as choir leader from 1922 until 1929. Other choir directors were Mrs. Harry Bynum, Mrs. Carlotta Barnes Jacoby, and Mrs. Garland Robeson who was also organist.

In 1921 Mr. A.M. Scales gave a Moller pipe organ as a memorial to his son, Alfred Moore Scales, Jr. This organ cost about seven thousand dollars and was used until 1968 when it was replaced by a new Fritz organ. The lovely chimes were given by Mr. and Mrs. John Marshall in memory of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Marshall.

In the 1920's the custom of standing for the song service was adopted. Before that time the people sat to sing and stood during the prayer. The first choir robes were used in 1941.

Mr. and Mrs. Moir Ayers became choir director and organist in 1940 and served in those positions until September 1, 1974. At that time Dr. David Foster, organ teacher at Greensboro College, became Organist-Choir Director for ten months. Following Dr. Foster, Mr. Claude Cooke was secured and remained for six months. Miss Laura Haygood, student at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro replaced Mr. Cooke on May 1, 1976 but because of a broken leg resigned on August 20, 1976. The present Organist-Choir Director, Charles Austin, came to Buffalo on January 1, 1977.

Many fine, dedicated singers have come our way and are still serving in this capacity. The majestic organ selections have helped in making the music an inspiring part of our worship. From Handel's "Messiah" to Dubois' "Seven Last Words of Christ" from Bach's "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" to the simplest Gospel hymn — all draw us nearer to our Master.



Christmas 1950



Choir

Front Row – Left to right: Mrs. James W. Walters, Miss Doris McKnight, Mrs. Moir M. Ayers, Charles Austin, Organist-Choir Director, Mrs. Leonard Bell, Miss Rhonda Abemathy, Mrs. Joe Prater.
 Second Row – Miss Mary Helen Fowlkes, Mrs. Alton Wyrick, Mrs. John W. Medearis, Mrs. Larry Russell, Mrs. E.W. Thompson, Jr., Mrs. Paul D. Kister, Mrs. Woodrow Culbreth, Mrs. Thomas E. McKnight, Jr.
 Back Row: Mrs. Parks Norman Jr., Mrs. Helen Mills, J. Frank Pickard, Moir M. Ayers, Paul D. Kister, John W. Medearis, Edward W. Fishburne, Leonard Bell.



The Handbell Choir

Left to right: Lucy Ayers, Hortense Culbreth, Millicent Marshall, Polly Medearis, Ronda Abernathy, Charles Austin, director, Harriet McKnight, Katie Witherington, Moir Ayers, John Medearis, Herman Bell.

WOMEN'S WORK AT BUFFALO

From the very beginning the women of the church have been a powerful force in the life of Buffalo Church and also in the community. Our women were not neglectful of the Biblical command "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers." Not only have they always entertained, they have taught, cooked, cleaned, and most important of all they have prayed.

The leadership of our first lady, Rachel Craighead Caldwell was outstanding. Dr. Caruthers, in his book, *The Life of Dr. David Caldwell*, tells us that on the day of the Battle of Guilford Court House, Mrs. Caldwell and a number of women belonging to the Buffalo congregation met at the home of Robert Rankin and spent the greater part of the day in prayer. It was said that Dr. Caldwell made the scholars but that Rachel made the preachers. Again we learn from Dr. Caruthers that as early as 1799 a few women of the church under Mrs. Caldwell's leadership met regularly for more than a year to pray for revival. Their prayers were answered by a great revival that began in North Carolina in 1801. This revival was begun by the effective preaching of Rev. James McGready, a son of Buffalo Church.

This was the pattern set for our women! The first record of the organized work of the women is found in the minutes of the Session in the year 1825. It seems that the organization of women carried the name of Female Benevolent Society. Only through the records of the Session have we any knowledge of the work done by the organization from its beginning to the year 1879. In 1879 the name was changed to Buffalo Home Mission and Aid Society. There were twenty-nine names on the roll, and Mrs. J.C. Alexander, the pastor's wife, was listed as president.

As the saying goes, if you want to get something done get the women to do it. They have been behind every project undertaken by the church since its beginning. Since 1922 the Women's Birthday Offering has been given to numerous causes. The women sponsor the Joy Gift Program at Christmas, and the gift of money that serves many retired servants of the church and their dependents is always substantial. The women include in their budget the work of foreign missionaries. Buffalo women have helped sponsor many men and women during the past twenty-five years. The women have also provided scholarships to deserving young people during the past several years.

Among the services rendered by our women is the selection of a Woman of the Year and a person to receive a Life Membership Award. Both of these honors go to worthy women and men who have served exceptionally well in the work of the church. Those who have been thusly honored are listed:

WOMAN OF THE YEAR
BUFFALO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

1947	Mrs. A.P. Dickson	1965	Mrs. W.B. Thacker
1948	Mrs. Carl Wharton	1966	Mrs. J.O. Morphis
1949	Mrs. H. Clay Lambeth	1967	Mrs. Carlotta B. Jacoby
1950	Mrs. Bertha Frazier	1968	Miss. Swannie Pugh
1951	Mrs. Harry R. Smith	1969	Mrs. David A. Lowe
1952	Miss Virginia Fields	1970	Mrs. John R. Hancock
1953	Mrs. M.C. Foust	1971	Miss Doris McKnight
1954	Mrs. R.W. Andrew	1972	Mrs. Leonard H. Bell
1955	Mrs. E.W. Fishburne	1973	Mrs. A. Duncan McGirt
1956	Mrs. J.L. Jones	1974	Mrs. Samuel Hassall
1958	Mrs. Moir M. Ayers	1975	Mrs. Paul D. Kister
1959	Mrs. H. Clay Lambeth	1976	Mrs. Sherman E. Hines
1960	Mrs. John W. Medearis	1977	Mrs. E.W. Thompson, Jr.
1961	Mrs. Otis B. Osborne	1978	Mrs. J. Woodrow Culbreth
1962	Mrs. Troy Sutton	1979	Mrs. Thomas E. McKnight, Jr.
1963	Mrs. T.H. Ward	1980	Mrs. Larry H. Russell
1964	Mrs. Mack Andrews		

LIFE MEMBERSHIP
BUFFALO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

1951	Mrs. S.M. Rankin	1966	Mr. Moir M. Ayers
1952	Mrs. Carl Wharton	1967	Mrs. H.R. Smith
	Mrs. Mamie Phipps	1968	Mrs. Harold C. Mills
1953	Mrs. W.P. Knight	1969	Miss Mary Julia Wilson
	Mrs. W.B. Thacker	1970	Mrs. Carlotta Barnes Jacoby
1954	Mrs. M.C. Foust	1971	Mrs. Otis Osborne
	Mrs. James R.A. Wilson	1972	Mrs. Jimmie L. Jones
1955	Mrs. A.P. Dickson	1973	Mrs. George D. Wyrick
1956	Mrs. W.S. Moore	1974	Mrs. Moir M. Ayers
1957	Mrs. Tom A. McKnight	1975	Mrs. E.W. Fishburne
1958	Mrs. Charles E. Kerchner	1976	Mr. H. Clay Lambeth
1960	Mrs. Cora McNeely	1977	Mrs. Edward L. Chambers
1961	Mrs. Bertha Frazier	1978	Mrs. John W. Medearis
1962	Mr. H.A. Barnes	1979	Mr. Otis Osborne
1964	Miss Frances Akerstrom	1980	Mrs. Robert W. Andrew
1965	Mrs. Mack Andrews		



Women of the Church Council

Back Row – Left to right: Mrs. E.W. Thompson, Jr., Mrs. Reid Coward, Mrs. Joseph H. Prater, Jr., Mrs. Duncan McGirt, Mrs. C. Hodgkin Donnell, Mrs. Larry Russell, Mrs. Otis B. Osborne, Mrs. Theodore Hoffman.

Front Row – Left to right: Mrs. Moir M. Ayers, Mrs. Troy Sutton, Mrs. Samuel Hassell, Mrs. E.W. Fishburne, Mrs. Hubert Nall, president, Mrs. Leonard Bell, Mrs. Joe W. Walters, Miss Doris McKnight.



Our Ladies Rolling Bandages for White Cross



Getting Ready for Christmas — Chrismon Class

Left to right: Doris Wyrick, Billie Ward, Ann Prater, Kaye Wilkins, Joann Weaner, Martha Osborne, Jean Faye Gross, Mozelle Terrell, Juanita Nall, Katie Witherington, Judy Hoffman, Lucile Hassall.

MEN OF THE CHURCH

It appears that the men's work under the name of The Men of the Church was organized in 1929 with H.A. Barnes as president. This work was organized and operated in accordance with the General Assembly's plan for men's work. The membership included all men in the church over 18 years of age and each man was encouraged to participate.

In the early days of the organization the men were very active in sponsoring a thriving mission Sunday School at "Ham Town No. 2," a suburban settlement about two miles northeast of the church. They also made possible a preaching service there once each month. They sponsored the organization of a Boy Scout troop which was active for many years. Christian social service such as "Christmas Cheer" for needy families and milk for needy school children was part of their work. Many deserving young people were sent to camp by these men. The organizing of Memorial Presbyterian Church, Guilford Park Presbyterian Church, and Hope View Presbyterian Church was made possible by their work.

Our men have taken an active part in both the Presbytery and the Synod. Men's work in Orange Presbytery on an organized basis began with a meeting of some 75 representatives from various churches of the Presbytery at the First Presbyterian Church of Burlington on August 25, 1946 when an executive committee was elected. This committee was known as the Presbytery Men's Council and Mr. Charles E. Kerchner was president. Out of this group came the Men of Orange and Mr. Kerchner was the first president of this organization. The men's work in the Presbytery and the Synod was highly effective during those early years when men from all over the General Assembly gathered for conventions in Miami, Atlanta, New Orleans, Dallas, and other places.

Buffalo men are still endeavoring to carry out the real purpose of men's work which is to relate every man to the work of the church and the work of the church to every man. It is a job of manpower enlistment based on constructive efforts to inform and activate every man for whom the local church is responsible. It helps to teach men the history, beliefs, aims, and programs of our church which are built upon a solid foundation of Bible study. It strives to develop among men the skills of prayer, evangelism, friendliness, stewardship, teaching, and social service against a background of personal and spiritual development.

Our early known presidents included H.A. Barnes, J.S. Phipps, W.L. Wharton, Dr. W.P. Knight, T.A. McKnight, Harry Bynum, and Charles E. Kerchner. Otis Osborne became president in 1944 and listed are the names and dates of the men who later filled this position.

R.H. Souther	1945 - 1946 - 1947	Duncan McGirt	1965
Walter L. Thornburg	1948	Parks Norman	1966
Sherman E. Hines	1949	E.W. Thompson, Jr.	1967
J. Woodrow Culbreth	1950	John W. Medearis	1968
John W. Marshall	1951 - 1952	Garland L. Barker	1969
Joe W. Walters	1953 - 1954	Herbert Trost	1970 - 1971
E.L. Chambers	1955	Moir M. Ayers	1972 - 1973
John T. Jones	1956	Paul D. Kister	1974
J. Luther Brown	1957	Clifford L. Garrett	1975
Alton Wyrick	1958 - 1959	Herbert Tucker	1976
Harvey B. Powell	1960 - 1961	Leonard Bell	1977
Charles Johnston	1962	William H. Reeves	1978
Jay Kohler	1963	Otis B. Osborne	1979 - 1980
J. Norman Jones	1964		



Men of the Church Officers

Left to right: Moir M. Ayers, John R. Walters, Jr., Otis B. Osborne, and Hodgin Donnell.

CHURCH GROUNDS AND BUILDINGS

The first plot of church land was bought October 16, 1768 from Adam Mitchell for twenty shillings. The deed was made to John McKnight and William Anderson, trustees, and it is on record in Rowan County. There were other deeds; one dated September 20, 1827, another dated 1850 and a fourth deed dated July 7, 1860.

The first church building stood inside the cemetery wall near the northwest corner. This building was constructed of logs as were all of the homes in this area. The second church building was a large frame building which stood near the southwest corner of the present cemetery. Our sister church, Alamance, had a building similar to this one at Buffalo. Dr. Calvin H. Wiley (1819-1887) describes the Alamance Church as a large frame building painted dark yellow, with four doors and over each door an ornamental portico. There was a gallery extending along one side and across both ends which could be reached by two stairways. The building would hold 900 to 1,000 people. The bounds of Buffalo congregation covered a territory of at least six to fifteen miles from the church and there was no other church in these bounds until about the year 1800.

The third building which is now in use was built in 1826. The contract was let to Jacob Albright who was to complete the new building in a neat and durable manner for the sum of \$2,400.00 plus the old church building. The bricks were made on a lot just west of the church. They were molded by hand and well fired, as we can observe today. The building was 60 feet long and 40 feet wide. The pulpit was placed at the northern end and ten feet at the front of the church provided a vestibule. A gallery, which was reserved for the black people was built across the front end. It was originally planned to build galleries on both sides of the full length of the auditorium but this was never done. The building was completed during 1827, and as far as we are able to ascertain this was the first brick church building erected in Greensboro.

In 1903 the third building was repaired and improved. An arched ceiling was placed below the old high ceiling. Other remodeling and repairs made were at a cost of \$444.00

In 1920, during the pastorate of Dr. E. Frank Lee, the first Sunday School building was erected. This building was named the David Caldwell Building in honor of our first pastor and was connected to the church building by a colonnade. This brick building had nine class rooms and was built for the sum of \$30,000. During this same year a portico was added to the front of the church, an alcove was built in the rear of the pulpit to house a pipe organ, and heating plants were installed in both buildings.

In 1951 the Rachel Caldwell Building was erected. The architecture of this building was designed after the David Caldwell Building and was joined to the main building by a colonnade. These three buildings made a beautiful sight reminding us of other colonial buildings seen in the eastern United States. The Rachel Caldwell Building consists of a large fellowship hall and kitchen, a ladies parlor, the Albright Auditorium with stage and four class rooms. This building houses the adult classes, and today the auditorium is used by Greensboro's Korean Church. This building was constructed for about \$90,000, under the supervision of the Building Committee members: E.W. Thompson, Jr., E.W. Fishburne, and J.L. Jones.

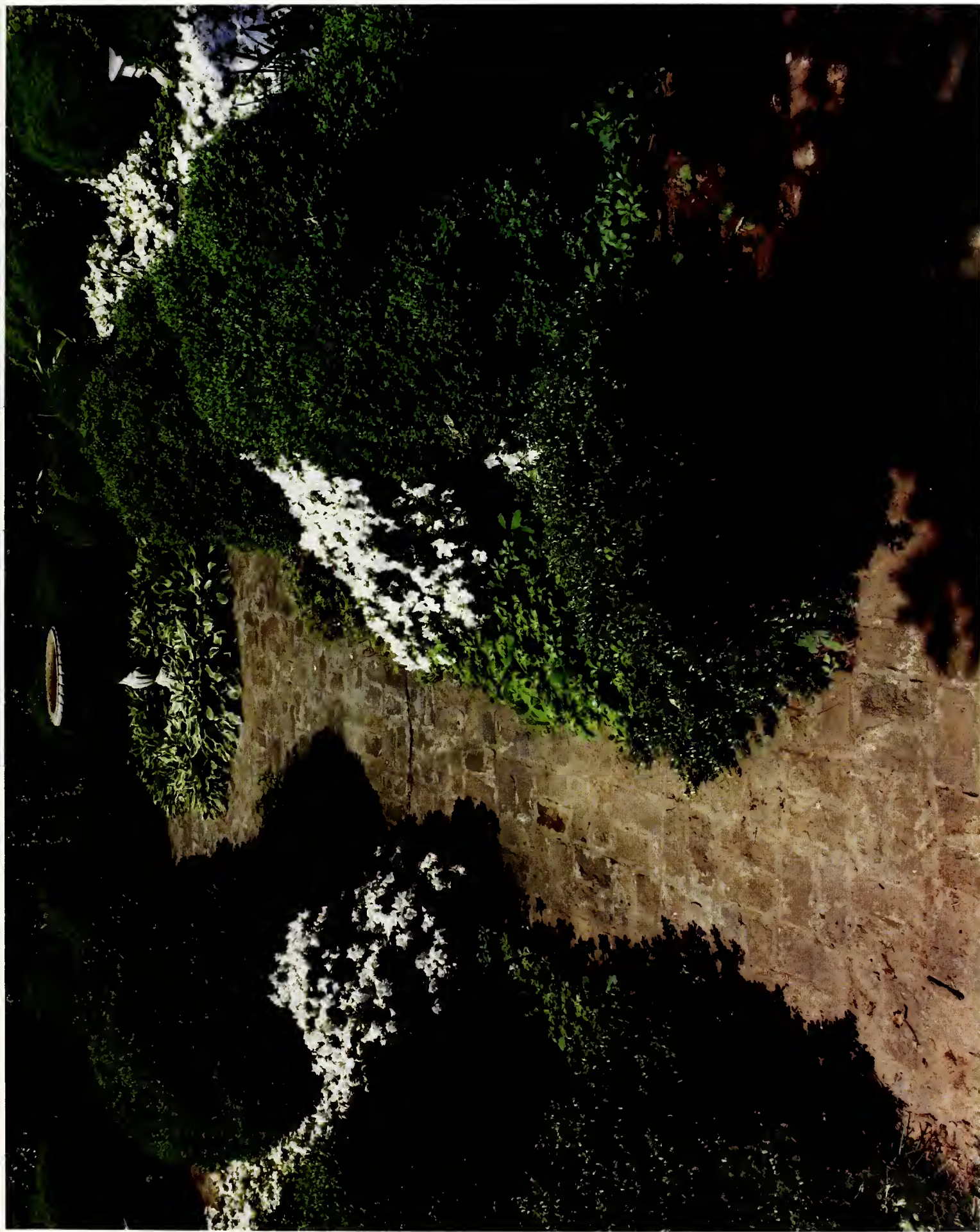
In 1956 the walls of the sanctuary were extended to accomodate our growing congregation. The architect, Thomas Heritage, a member of the church, was largely responsible for making it one of the most beautiful sanctuaries in the city. The building committee consisted of J.L. Jones, H.A. Barnes, H.G. Waters, R.H. Armfield, Mrs. A.O. Spoon, Mrs. W.B. Thacker, E.W. Fishburne, and H.L. Brown, builder. The interior of the church was completely redecorated. The fixtures were chosen carefully to be in keeping with the colonial architecture of the exterior. In the vestibule the cornices, paneling, stairway, and light fixtures are all characteristic of those found in authentic colonial churches. The folding shutters at each window enhance the beauty of the sanctuary.



Buffalo Presbyterian Church's third Sanctuary, erected in 1827. The hand-made bricks in this building were made by Jacob Albright, and it is said that this was the first church building constructed of bricks in Guilford County.



Church Building – Before Construction of Rachel Caldwell Building



The Memorial Garden

Saundra Evans made the following comments about Buffalo in an architectural and historical survey made in 1961. "Buffalo Church is an extremely well-preserved and well-kept building. Her members are justifiably proud of the heritage they have received from Buffalo's existence of more than two centuries. However, unless one were studying the buildings from an architectural viewpoint, as I endeavored to do, the architectural significance of Buffalo Church might not be immediately evident. This church has been so completely intergraded into its surroundings and has been decorated and furnished so carefully and tastefully in accordance to its architectural precedent that it has been an interesting and profitable assignment to work on."

In 1966 the biggest building project yet undertaken by the church was the construction of a new David Caldwell Educational Building. This project cost more than \$250,000.00. Under the leadership of the Rev. Gray Hampton and a building committee including J.L. Jones, M.M. Ayers, Mrs. L.G. Albright, Jr., Mrs. T.H. Ward and Sidney Campbell, finance chairman, the old David Caldwell Building was torn down and in its place the finest building we could imagine was begun. We all had tears in our hearts as the old building was torn away, but we were thrilled with the promise of something better.

The new structure contains 16,000 square feet and its simplicity and beauty blend well with the old. The structure contains ten large classrooms, a pastor's study, office of director of Christian education, library, secretary's office, work room, fellowship hall which will seat 300 to 400 people and a large, modern kitchen. This building today is used mainly for our young people and offices for the staff. Thomas Heritage was the architect for this fine building. The debt for this large undertaking will be paid in full for our 225th anniversary.

On June 19, 1966 the congregation witnessed the laying of the cornerstone of the David Caldwell Building. It was a great day. Our former ministers, the Rev. A.P. Dickson and the Rev. E. Lee Willingham, came for the celebration, and other friends were back to share this event with the Buffalo congregation.

In 1966 when the new David Caldwell Building was constructed, the Session gave one of the elders, Mr. Moir Ayers, permission to create a Memorial Garden in memory of the church's honored dead. There was a natural space in an offset facing south in front of the building, which was perfect for such an undertaking.

This miniature formal garden is patterned after an old Savannah garden and blends perfectly with the buildings and grounds. The framework of the garden is an octagonal walk constructed of old, handmade bricks which came from the first David Caldwell Building. The focal point is a handsome birdbath made from Italian stone. English boxwood edge the brick walks and interspersed are many white azaleas (Gumpo variety). All of the materials used in the garden were donated by Buffalo members. Much love, prayer, thought, and money went into this undertaking.

Upon entering the garden, one sees a bronze tablet which reads as follows:

"In memory of those saints who labored and loved on these hallowed grounds, and who have now gone on to be with our Lord."

"And the Lord planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there He put the man whom he had formed." Genesis 2:8

"And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day . . ." Genesis 3:8

No lovelier spot can be found in Guilford County than the Buffalo Cemetery. A sacred spot that includes the graves of many of the early citizens of Greensboro. We find the graves of our beloved Dr. Caldwell and his wife Rachel Craighead Caldwell. We find the grave of the popular Rev. J.C. Alexander, and in more recent years the grave of the Rev. S.M. Rankin. There are stones bearing the names of Wharton, McKnight, Donnell, Denny, Mitchell, McAdoo, and scores of others.

The entire cemetery is surrounded by a rock wall. The English boxwood planted more than 200 years ago are beautiful. Some have grown to a height of ten feet, and their beauty is enjoyed twelve months of the year. Cedar trees stand majestically in the area and several young cedars are beginning to grow. In the spring, spirea and forsythia enhance the grounds. During the pastorate of Lee Willingham the Easter Sunrise Service was held in the cemetery. To see the sun rise over these ancient cedars was a memorable experience. A row of crepe myrtle trees was planted along the north rock wall in 1979.

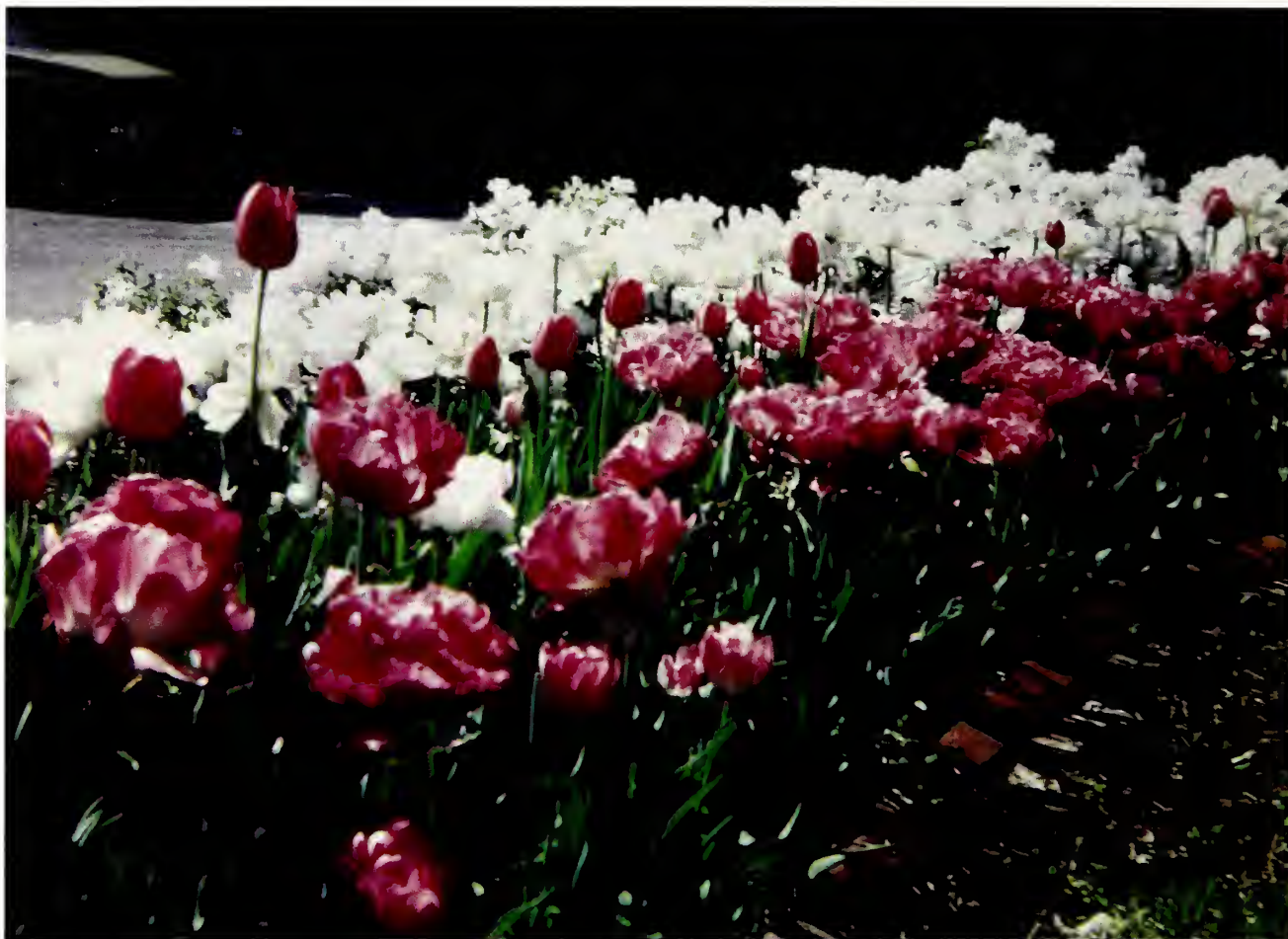
The early grave stones were poorly marked; many have been destroyed or have crumbled away. Stones were hard to get in those early days and many were only field stones or soap stones marked by hand. The oldest stone with dates and lettering is for Mary Starrett, wife of Benjamin, born 1723 and died 1775. We are sure there were other burials before this date. In the past forty or fifty years the markers have been larger and much more durable than the older ones.

In 1956 when the sanctuary was extended, several graves were lost as the building extended into the cemetery. A few slab type stones were placed in the wall of the extended choir loft. It was again necessary in 1965, with the construction of the new David Caldwell Building, to remove graves and place them in other parts of the cemetery.

The Board of Trustees who had vision and foresight during the early 1900's included the following men: Dr. W.P. Knight, H.A. Barnes, Thomas A. McKnight, Carl L. Wharton, and W. Gilmer Wharton. These men were largely responsible for the preservation of the cemetery to this day. The Cemetery Trustees, 1980 include Thomas E. McKnight, Chairman; E.W. Fishburne, Treasurer; Leonard H. Bell; John R. Schoolfield; William F. McAdoo, Jr.

There have been many contributions made to the Cemetery Endowment Fund throughout the years, but none as substantial as that given by the late H.A. Barnes. His love and concern for Buffalo and her people impelled him to leave a large endowment to ensure perpetual care for the sacred grounds.





The Glory of Spring



More Glory of Spring



Crepe Myrtle blooming in the cemetery



Tulips, Spirea, Azaleas, and White Dogwood make a dazzling display.



The Spirea and Forsythia try to outshine each other.



The Cemetery in Spring



Snowfall at Christmas



George Harris, our sexton



CELEBRATIONS AND OTHER MEETINGS OF NOTE

An important celebration at Buffalo Church was the centennial observance of the installation of Dr. Caldwell as pastor which was held in 1868 during a meeting of Orange Presbytery. Dr. Calvin H. Wiley, noted educator who was baptized by Dr. Caldwell, was the speaker.

On October 19, 1919 a campaign was launched under the leadership of Dr. E. Frank Lee to raise funds to erect a Sunday School Building. Mr. A.M. Scales spoke on the subject, "The Life and Labors of Dr. David Caldwell." Other speakers were: The Rev. R. Murphy Williams, pastor of the Church of the Covenant of Greensboro, Mr. Bernard Cone of White Oak Mills and Mr. E. Sternberger of the Revolution Mills. The campaign was launched and great interest was awakened. Within months a committee had thirty thousand dollars in cash and subscriptions. A contract was let to Mr. Lee Jackson and the David Caldwell Building was constructed.

The one hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary of Buffalo Church was observed on October 18, 1931. The speakers were Dr. Walter Lingle, president of Davidson College, and our own Rev. S.M. Rankin who spoke on "Buffalo and Her Pioneers." Mrs. J. Sterling Jones of Greensboro presented the church a memorial tablet commemorating Dr. Caldwell, her great, great grandfather. The tablet was unveiled for the sanctuary by a great, great grandson, Caldwell Roane of Winston-Salem and accepted by the Rev. A.P. Dickson, pastor of the church. Twenty-five years later on September 16, 1956 an identical memorial tablet to honor Rachel Craighead Caldwell was presented to Buffalo Church by the Rachel Caldwell Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The tablet was unveiled by Shirley Bernau and Robin Farr, descendants of Rachel and David Caldwell, and accepted by Elder T.A. McKnight.

A wonderful celebration was held in 1956, commemorating the church's 200th year. Plans for this celebration began in the forties, with neither effort nor expense being spared.

For this special occasion an outdoor drama was presented for three nights. Mr. H.A. Barnes was instrumental in securing Mrs. Samuel Seldon of Chapel Hill to write the script for this pageant. Mrs. Seldon spent months on research for the exciting drama about Buffalo and her people. Miss Grace Van Dyke Moore, an instructor at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, wrote the scenario.

"Let Freedom Ring" portrayed the early settling of the Buffalo congregation, the Revolutionary War, the War of the Regulators, and the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. The cast, directed by Moir Ayers, consisted of members of Alamance and Buffalo congregations. The main characters were David Caldwell, played by Harvey Powell, and Rachel Caldwell, portrayed by Mrs. Robert Andrew. Almost everyone in the church helped in some way: building three outdoor stages, making costumes, acting or singing, making props, or handling the lights. At the conclusion of the drama with the singing of "America," when the flag of the United States was raised, there were not many dry eyes.

In an article written in the *Textorian* (Cone Mills publication) Lelah Nell Masters, editor, said: "Buffalo Presbyterian Church should be to each of us a symbol of our past and a challenge to our future. Although, to us, 200 years may seem a very long time, in relation to the great clock of eternity, it is less than a second. Therefore, we must not rely too much on our past, glorious though it may be, but be constantly on the lookout for subtle forces hacking away at destroying our way of life."

"It is important, therefore, that we continue to seek righteousness and constantly renew in our minds and hearts the true meaning of the word democracy. We feel sure that all who saw the drama, 'Let Freedom Ring', will never forget why our forebears came to this country, and that they have rededicated themselves to this 'sweet land of liberty'."

Along with the drama of the two hundredth anniversary celebration there were other events included in the week-end of June 15-17, 1956. A reception was held on Saturday afternoon and, on Sunday following the morning worship service, a homecoming picnic was held on the grounds. The Rev. James T. Donnell, a descendant of the church, spoke at 11:00 A.M. on the topic, "The Progress of the Gospel." The picnic in the usual Buffalo style, delicious and bountiful, and visits with old friends made this a memorable occasion.

When our nation celebrated its 200th birthday on July 4, 1976, Buffalo combined its 220th birthday with that of the nation. On June 12-13 open house was held for visitors. On Saturday night, scenes from "Let Freedom Ring" were presented in the Albright Auditorium. Dr. John A. Redhead, former minister of the First Presbyterian Church in Greensboro, was the speaker at the worship service on Sunday morning. A bountiful dinner was served on the grounds at noon followed by a program of patriotic music by the Greensboro Oratorio Society under the direction of Mr. Don Trexler.

Buffalo Church has been host to many groups over the years. The Daughters of the American Revolution, musical organizations, Christian groups and other groups have been welcomed at Buffalo. Of special note are the meetings of Presbytery which have been held at Buffalo. New Hanover Presbytery met here on March 3, 1768. This was the third meeting of this Presbytery in North Carolina. At this important meeting Dr. Caldwell was installed as pastor. New Hanover Presbytery met here again in March, 1770. Records show that Presbytery met eight or ten times at Buffalo from 1770-1921. In recent years the following meetings were held:

January 15, 1959 — E. Lee Willingham, III, pastor

June 22, 1967 — Gray W. Hampton, Jr., pastor

January 28, 1971 — Edsel M. Huffstetler, pastor



Let Freedom Ring

A Play Celebrating the Bi-Centennial of
THE BUFFALO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Greensboro, N. C.

by

Emily Crow Selden

Based on Scenario by

Grace Van Dyke More

Directed by Moir M. Ayers
Dramatic Staging by Donnell Stoneman
Lighting E. W. Fishburne Sets Donnell Stoneman
Music Mrs. Carlotta Jacoby Costumes Mrs. J. L. Jones
Properties R. W. Andrew

Buffalo Presbyterian Church Grounds

Greensboro, North Carolina

June 15, 16, 1956 — 8:00 P. M.

Cast of Characters (in order of appearance)

NARRATOR, THE REVEREND ELI W. CARUTHERS Charles McLees
MR. MITCHELL Willard White
THOMAS DONNELL Wayne Cates
JAMES DONNELL, as a boy of 12 Tommy Gardner
JOHN DONNELL, as a boy of 8 Thomas Morphis
ROBERT RANKIN (Buck Flintom
(Needham House
Magie Fishburne
Buddy McKnight
Dick Lambeth
Herman Estridge, Jr.
Becky Chambers
ELLEN Jean Medearis
AGNES DONNELL Betty Jane Walters
DAVID CALDWELL Harvey Powell
SARAH DONNELL, wife of Thomas Lillian Ward
MRS. MEEK, mother of Hannah Jean Faye Gross
SHERIFF E. W. Thompson, Jr.
GEORGE, Sheriff's Deputy Herman Smith
WILLIAM TRYON, Governor of North Carolina Thomas E. McKnight
ALEXANDER MARTIN Wilbur Beasley
TRYON'S AIDE Bob Guffey
JAMES PUGH Charles Huffines
LAMENTING WOMAN Claire Jacoby
TAMMY RANKIN, son of James Donnell Johnny Marshall
RACHEL CALDWELL Helen Andrew
BRITISH CAPTAIN John Hancock
BRITISH LIEUTENANT Thomas P. Heritage
MARGARET, Mrs. Caldwell's Maid Carolyn Jones
BRITISH COMMANDER John Schoolfield
CAPTAIN STOVALL Otis Osborne
PERKINS, a drunken British Soldier John Lewis
MAJOR HORACE WITHERSPOON, British Doctor Harry R. Smith
MR. MCKNIGHT Boyd Clapp
FIDDLER Leonard Bell
REGULATORS—Harry Smith, Jr., Tommy Smith, Eddy Hines, Herman
Smith, Buck Flintom, Barry Powell.
BRITISH SOLDIERS—John Hancock, Thomas E. McKnight, Bill McAdoo,
John Schoolfield, Bob Guffey, Thomas P. Heritage, John Lewis, Otis
Osborne, Marshall Lowe.
WOMEN OF THE CONGREGATION — Nancy McKnight, Betty
Wyrick, Mary Helen Fowlkes.
CHILDREN OF THE CONGREGATION — Anne Ayers, Carol Brown,
Susan Hines, Gail Schoolfield, Martha Ann Wyrick, Barbara Ann
Hart, Sarah Richardson, Helen Jones, Vinnie Fishburne, Denise
Smith, Jimmy Sutton, Thomas McKnight, Michael Osborne, L. W.
McFarland, III.
DANCERS—Members of the Greensboro Quadrille Club, Mr. Doyle
Harvell, President.
CHOIR—Members of Buffalo and Alamance Choirs.



Rachel and David Caldwell portrayed by Mrs. R.W. Andrew
and Harvey Powell in "Let Freedom Ring" — 1956



The Quilting Scene
from
"Let Freedom Ring"
1976



The Morning Worship Service

OUTREACH

In the summer of 1929, the organized Men of Buffalo Church wanted to perform some definite service in connection with their monthly programs. These men were led to begin a Sunday School in the community known as "Jim Hamtown" nearly two miles northeast of the church. A vacant store building was rented where the first Sunday School was held on Sunday, October 1, 1929. Interest grew and soon the small room became inadequate, impelling the men to start a fund to build a larger facility. A lot was purchased (100 x 150 feet) for the sum of \$250, and in the Summer of 1936 digging for the foundation was begun.

A brick veneer chapel was constructed, in the shape of a T, with an auditorium and four classrooms. A large basement was excavated and floored with concrete, and a hot-air furnace installed. The first Sunday School service was held in the new building in April, 1937. The new chapel was dedicated, in a special service, on Sunday afternoon, April 7, 1940. The building was packed with people.

Tribute should be paid to those who labored faithfully in this undertaking. The Men of the Church appointed Mr. J.I. Medearis and Mr. J.S. Phipps to start the work of the Sunday School. Mr. Medearis served with unflagging interest and zeal until his death in June, 1978. Mrs. Joe Phipps and Miss Swanie Pugh spent untold hours in the work of the Chapel, and in the early years Miss Mary Bangle and Mr. H.A. Barnes gave unstintingly of their time and money.

Without the interest, the sacrificial gifts, the labors and prayers of all the people of the community and church this work would not have succeeded. Shortly after the new building was first used for services, the people decided to call it Buffalo Chapel and in later years it was named Hope View Presbyterian Church.

In the autumn of 1939 the Men of the Church began looking for a second outpost Sunday School. A survey was made by H.A. Barnes and J.S. Phipps of property on the McKnight Mill Road, about three miles from the church. After a lot 90½ by 547 feet was purchased for two hundred dollars, a building committee was appointed. Mr. Barnes served as general chairman and Mr. Rita Armfield as chairman of the committee for construction. Others serving on the committee were: T.A. McKnight, L.E. Sikes, M.C. Foust, Mrs. Carl L. Wharton, and Mr. Bart Summers. A frame building 24 x 24 feet was constructed in early 1940 costing approximately \$650.00. The first service was held in March of that year.

The Session of the church appointed Elder M.C. Foust superintendent of the new Sunday School, with Mrs. Foust to work with him. Their son, Mac Foust, who is now a Presbyterian minister, helped mightily with the early work. This outpost was named North Buffalo Chapel, but when the church was organized the congregation named it Memorial Presbyterian Church.

At a meeting of a church-wide committee (all Presbyterian churches in the city of Greensboro) on Wednesday night, October 8, 1946, at the First Presbyterian Church, Buffalo Church was offered the Fairfield Community for location of a proposed outpost chapel. The Session of Buffalo Church approved this project at a meeting October 11, 1946. The congregation voted on February 2, 1947 to canvass the members for funds with which to start the Fairfield Chapel. A committee consisting of W.L. Thornburg, Hobart Souther, H.A. Barnes, Robert Gregory, T.A. McKnight and Mr. Dickson (ex officio) was appointed to handle the project.

Lacy D. Wyrick agreed to serve as superintendent of the newly organized Sunday School, and the first meeting was held on July 13, 1947. Upon application for certificates of membership and dismissal, Mr. and Mrs. L.C. Criscoe, and Miss Bertha Anthony were granted such certificates to permit them to become charter members of the newly organized Presbyterian church in the Fairfield-Kirkwood Community. A petition was presented to Presbytery meeting at the First Presbyterian Church in High Point on January 13, 1948, asking permission to organize formally as a church. Organization was effected at the 11:00 o'clock service in the new church on February 1, 1948. The name of the church became officially Guilford Park Presbyterian Church.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Presbyterians have been strong believers in Christian Education since our nation was founded. Many of our church-related universities and colleges have their roots in the Presbyterian Church. Several signers of the Declaration of Independence were Presbyterians. It is interesting to note that David Caldwell was asked to serve as the first president of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Buffalo has always been a strong church in its teaching of the catechisms. Dr. Caldwell's Log College drew pupils from all over the south, and it was said to be the best classical school south of the Potomac. Dr. Caldwell not only taught the usual secular branches of learning, but he also taught the Bible and the principles of true character. According to Dr. Caruthers at least fifty ministers of the Gospel were educated in whole or in part in his school. In early years the people came to church on Saturday to prepare for the Lord's Day on Sunday.

The Sabbath School is first mentioned in the minutes in 1870, but it must have been organized shortly after Dr. Caruthers became the pastor. Dr. Caruthers was a great believer in the Sabbath Schools, and by 1829 he had succeeded in organizing all the schools of the county into a Sunday School Union. The catechism continued to be a useful aid in teaching the children and was especially used during the Rev. A.P. Dickson's pastorate. Most of the children learned the Child's Catechism and the Shorter Catechism. Many adults became interested in memorizing scripture. When she was in her seventies, Mrs. Cora McNeely recited the Catechism.

The first Director of Christian Education was Miss Frances Mashburn (Mrs. Ed Johnson) who was hired on June 1, 1945. Moir M. Ayers served in that capacity from May 1, 1946 until the summer of 1964. Mr. Ayers was succeeded by Miss Sue Dean (Mrs. Silas B. Langfitt) who served as Director of Christian Education until June, 1967. Mrs. A.E. Roberts, Sr. served as Director of Christian Education from July, 1967 until October, 1973. Miss Kathy Kier (Mrs. Don Malone) served from May, 1975 until December, 1976. Our present Director of Christian Education is Miss Katie Witherington who came to us on June 1, 1979.

The Bible was and is the source of our Christian Educational program. As Christians and Presbyterians we believe in the power of God to save sinners through the shed blood of the Lamb of God and we rest upon the Bible as our all-sufficient rule of faith and practice.

"O where are Kings and Empires now,
Of old that went and came?
But, Lord, Thy church is praying yet,
A thousand years the same."

CHRISTMAS AT BUFFALO

"Deck the halls with boughs of holly!" That's what the members do at Christmas at Buffalo. Music plays such a vital role in the worship at our church and it is never more evident than at Christmas — from early December through the last days of the month.

Each year since 1965 we have had a Colonial Christmas Candlelight Service. Doris Dale Paysour of the Greensboro Daily News had this to say in her column on December 12, 1965: "The happiest of Christmas holidays brought together the colonists in joyful worship in a simple church of their own building, festooned with fruits and foliage of the season and filled with the carols of their hertiage." Such describes the Christmas spirit at Buffalo.

As a result of the newspaper publicity and mild weather, a very large crowd attended on December 12, 1965. So many people from all over the county came that quite a number were turned away. Buffalo Church was decorated that night with English boxwood wreaths at each window and a large wreath hanging on the organ pipes. Two large arrangements on the rostrum contained red berries, red apples, magnolia foliage and holly and pine boughs. They not only looked lovely but their fragrance filled the sanctuary. After the musical program the congregation was invited to the Fellowship Hall for the tasty refreshments famous in the community. The room was decorated in a colonial manner by Mrs. Harry Smith, Mrs. Leonard Bell, and Moir Ayers. Many women and some of the men were in colonial costume. People love Christmas music and each year continue to make a special effort to attend the Colonial Candlelight Service.

"O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!"





With the **WOMEN**
GREENSBORO DAILY NEWS

GREENSBORO, N.C., SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1965



A Colonial Christmas Candlelight Service

In The

Sanctuary of the Buffalo Presbyterian Church

Greensboro, North Carolina

December 12, 1965

By a Company of Musicians under the Direction of Moir M. Ayers and Miss Beth Stout.

assisted by

Mrs. John Mcdearis, Soprano; Mrs. Perry Teague, Soprano; Miss Anne Ayers, Soprano; Mr. John Mcdearis, Baritone; Mr. Reid Morrison, Bass; Mrs. Moir M. Ayers, Organ; Miss Mary Alyce Watson, Violin; Mrs. Lucas Abels, Harpsichord; and the Rev. Gray W. Hampton, Jr., Reader.

Organ Prelude—"Christmas Pastorate"

Harker

Hymn of the Month—"It Came Upon The Midnight Clear"

No. 58

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 40:1-5, St. Luke 2:6-11

Prayer

Selections by The Covenant Bell Ringers

Anthem—"Born Today"

J. P. Sweelinck

Anthem—"The Birth Of Christ"

Jean Pasquet

Anthem—"From Heaven High The Angels Come"

Dickinson

Choir

Selections by The Covenant Bell Ringers

Anthem—"Lo, How A Rose"

Christiansen-Praetorius

Anthem—"The Snow Lay On The Ground"

Sowerby

Anthem—"The Holly And The Ivy"

Traditional English

Anthem—"A Joyful Christmas Song"

F. A. Gevaert

Choir

Solo—"Sheep May Safely Graze"

Bach

Mrs. Thomas Kilkelly

Anthem—"Christ Was Born On Christmas Day"

Traditional German

Anthem—"Sweet Was The Song"

John Attey

Anthem—"Sing We All Noel"

Curtis York

Anthem—"Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light"

Bach

Choir

Benediction

Mr. Hampton

Postlude—Sonata No. 4

Handel

Mary Alyce Watson—Violin

Following the benediction there will be a reception honoring members of the Euterpe Club, guests, and members of the congregation.

Members of the Choir

Soprano

Ann Ayers
Mrs. Robert Ayers
Mrs. George Brantley
Mrs. Sidney Campbell
Mrs. Gray Hampton
Susan Hunsucker
Mrs. Willard Isley
Doris McKnight
Mrs. John Medearis
Mrs. Harold Mills
Mrs. Parks Norman, Jr.
Mrs. Larry Russell
Mrs. Perry Teague
Martha Thompson
Mrs. James Walters
Mary Wells
Martha Ann Wyrick
Mrs. Alton Wyrick

Tenor

Moir Ayers
Paul Kister
J. Frank Pickard
Ray West

Alto

Mrs. Thomas Avent
Shelton Ayers
Mrs. Leonard Bell
Mrs. Woodrow Culbreth
Sue Dean
Mrs. James Harvey
Mrs. George Kiropes
Mrs. Paul Kister
Mary McIver

Bass

Herman Bell
Leonard Bell
Wayne Cates
Vance Hart
Silas Langfitt
John Medearis
Reid Morrison
Larry Russell

Covenant Bell Ringers

Lynn Holliday
Chip McIntosh
Gary McNeil
Margaret Proctor
Margaret Shelton
Marcia Smith
Katherine Southworth



Thanksgiving at Buffalo

HISTORICAL RECORDS

Buffalo Church is fortunate in that much historical data has been preserved. There are no sessional minutes from 1756 - 1833; it is assumed that they were lost. But there were thirty-two loose pages about the years from 1773 to 1796 which have recently been laminated and bound into one small volume. These pages contain the records of early trials before the Session, also complaints of resisting an officer, of getting drunk and breaking the Sabbath, of spreading reports detrimental to one's character. It is believed that the earliest records were destroyed when the British burned Dr. Caldwell's library in 1781.

The Barnes Historical Room contains much valuable information. Mr. Barnes, who died January 19, 1965, was historian of the church for many years and preserved many old records in a vault at Cone Mills. The Barnes Historical Room contains all of the pictures of our thirteen pastors except David Caldwell (none available). Here one will find the crude bookcase which housed the church's first library. A large handsome breakfront given by the White Furniture Company in honor of Mr. Roy McKnight contains a number of priceless books. Among interesting items there are many old tools which belonged to Mr. Lonnie Albright, Sr.

Mr. Charles E. Kerchner joined Buffalo in 1933 and has kept complete and comprehensive records since he became Clerk of the Session on October 1, 1941. The Women of the Church keep records of the entire work of the church in an annual history. One copy of this history is retained in the library of the church and another is sent to the Historical Foundation in Montreat. Copies of the church bulletins have been bound in book form since 1957 and are available in the church library.

When Buffalo Presbyterian Church was considered for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, the following letter was written by Mr. Huffstetler to Dr. Larry E. Tise, Director of the Division of Archives and History in Raleigh, North Carolina:

"Dear Sir:

June 8, 1976

We are highly pleased to learn that this church is being considered for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, and the following information is submitted, hoping it will help to determine our qualifications for this honor and recognition.

"Buffalo is the oldest Presbyterian Church within the bounds of Guilford County as presently constituted and among the older churches of this area and the state. It was organized in the year 1756, obviously pre-dating the Declaration of Independence, also pre-dating the city of Greensboro and the county of Guilford.

"The church is located in the northeast quadrant of the city of Greensboro and has been on its present site for its entire history of 220 years. It has a membership of more than 400 people who live in practically every section of Greensboro, with some scattered throughout the county.

"The congregation worships in its third building, which was completed in 1827. Additions have been built on each end and the sanctuary has been renovated, but the main body of the structure remains as built 149 years ago. Two educational buildings have been added (one on either side), which are joined to the main building. The estimated value of the property at present is \$950,000.00. The grounds are beautifully landscaped and the buildings are in good condition.

"Men from Buffalo Church have fought in every major American conflict, beginning with the Revolutionary War. The Battle of Guilford Courthouse was fought within the bounds of the area served by Buffalo Church and peopled with her members. Veterans of that conflict, including the leader, Col. Daniel Gillespie, lie buried in Buffalo's cemetery. The cemetery, with separate trustees and well-endowed, is kept in good condition.

"Also buried here is the Rev. Dr. David Caldwell, Buffalo's first pastor, with his wife and several members of his family. His wife, Rachel, was the daughter of the Rev. Alexander Craighead, pioneer Presbyterian minister and leader in the Charlotte area.

"Dr. Caldwell was a leader in the colonies' fight for independence. According to his biographer and successor, The Rev. Dr. Eli Caruthers, he often preached on the subject of the existing difficulties between England and the American colonies. Hardly a Sabbath passed, Dr. Caruthers wrote, in which he did not allude to the subject in some way or other. The British put a price on his head and would have gladly paid it.

"Caldwell was a native of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. He founded the first school in the present bounds of the city of Greensboro and the surrounding area. It was called the Log College, named for his Alma Mater, the Log College of New Jersey, later and since known as Princeton University. From this school came many leaders of the colonial era, both political and ecclesiastical. Dr. Caldwell instilled within them a desire for freedom and a thirst for knowledge. Their influence was felt throughout the southeast.

"Dr. Caldwell himself was a member of the first state convention at Halifax in 1776 that framed the first state constitution; and he was a member of the state convention in 1788 that approved the federal constitution. Five men, trained under him, became governors of southern states, including Gov. Morehead of North Carolina.

"Alexander Martin, an intimate friend of Dr. Caldwell and apparently a member of Buffalo Church, became governor in 1781 when Gov. Burke was captured by the Tories, and he was elected for five terms of two years each. He was a representative from North Carolina in the federal convention in 1786 that framed the national constitution, and a United States Senator in 1793.

"Seven members of Buffalo Church served as State Senators prior to the War Between the States. Fifteen members served in the House of Commons of North Carolina before the end of the 19th Century. Ten members of Buffalo have served as High Sheriff of Guilford County. One served as a Superior Court Judge. Numerous others have served as county clerks and commissioners.

"Books which have been published about Buffalo Church, her leaders and people are as follows:

The Life of David Caldwell by the Rev. Dr. Eli Caruthers,
published in Greensboro by Swaim and Sherwood in 1842.

Buffalo Church and Her People by the Rev. S.M. Rankin,
published in Greensboro by Joseph J. Stone in 1935.

David Caldwell by Mrs. Ethel Arnett, published by Media, Inc.
in Greensboro in 1976."

Sincerely yours,



Edsel M. Huffstetler
Pastor

BUFFALO RECOGNIZED AS HISTORIAL SITE

In 1976, the Bi-Centennial Year of our nation, Buffalo Church was designated an historical site by the Historical Society of Guilford County.

In 1976 Buffalo was enrolled in the American Presbyterian/Reformed Historical Sites Registry (Site No. 120) by the Presbyterian Historical Society of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

In 1980 the nomination of Buffalo Church to the National Register of Historic Places was approved by the North Carolina State Professional Review Committee for submission to the United States Department of Interior.

BUFFALO CHURCH TODAY

"For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endures to all generations." (Psalm 100:5) So declared the Psalmist ages ago, and the present generation is as much a recipient of this blessing as any other.

In God's Providence Buffalo Church continues as a faithful witness to its unchanging purpose: the salvation and nurture of souls. The proclamation of the Word of God stands at the very center of its ministry.

The men, women, and youth, making up the present congregation, have come from diverse backgrounds. Some are descendants of the earliest members of Buffalo, others have come in at different points throughout the years, and some have joined us in recent months and years. The dedication of many of these is unexcelled by any generation. Serving in various capacities (officers, teachers, singers, etc.) they fulfill their God-given responsibilities in a most commendable manner.

In a time when many, if not most, of her sister churches have abandoned all regular services beyond the Sunday morning worship, Buffalo continues to have a regular Sunday evening vesper service and mid-week prayer meeting. Her percentage of attendance at the Sunday morning worship is higher than that of the "Bible Belt," which is higher than the national average.

Interest in the Bible among the adults is attested to by the six, well-attended adult Sunday School classes, and the concern of the people for the spiritual guidance and training of their youth is confirmed in the employment of a full-time Director of Christian Education and Youth Work. Additional opportunities for study and fellowship are offered on a regular basis through the Men and Women of the Church organizations and the youth groups.

One cannot help being impressed by the beautiful and adequate facilities at Buffalo. The present membership can take pride in the fact that two of its three buildings were erected, the third renovated and enlarged, and all paid for during the past thirty years.

The beauty of the grounds (often referred to by passers-by as the most beautiful in the city of Greensboro) has been kept and improved through the labors of present-day members.

Comparatively speaking, the members of Buffalo do well in the stewardship of their possessions. As of 1979 the average per capita giving of this church was higher than that of Orange Presbytery, the Synod of North Carolina, or the General Assembly.

Concern for local needs (beyond the congregation) is seen in Buffalo's support of such organizations as *Young Life*, *Youth for Christ*, *Nat Greene Home for Boys*, and the *Greensboro Urban Ministry*.

A continued concern for World Missions is manifest in the regular support of missionaries on two foreign fields, and a growing budget to special mission projects throughout the world.

Buffalo Church today is grateful for its heritage, rejoices in its present blessings and opportunities, and looks forward in hope to the future, ever laying hold of the promise, "that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

(Phillippians 1:6)

Edsel M. Huffstetler
Pastor



The Church Staff

**Katie Witherington, Charles Austin, Miriam Cooper,
The Rev. Edsel M. Huffstetler.**



Church Trustees

Left to right: Moir M. Ayers, H. Clay Lambeth, Harry R. Smith, Jimmie L. Jones.



Cemetery Trustees

**Left to right: Leonard Bell, Edward W. Fishburne, William F. McAdoo,
Thomas E. McKnight.
(seated)**



The Elders

Seated: Harry R. Smith, E.W. Thompson III, Edward L. Chambers, Paul D. Kister, Edsel M. Huffstetler, Charles E. Kerchner (Clerk), Otis B. Osborne, J. Frank Pickard, Clarence P. Hinshaw, Lacy D. Wyrick, C. Hodgin Donnell.
 Back row: Moir M. Ayers, A. Duncan McGirt, John W. Medearis, John R. Walters, Jr., Thomas E. McKnight, Sr., William F. McAdoo, Jr., J. Woodrow Culbreth, H. Clay Lambeth, Jimmie L. Jones, E.W. Fishburne, Neill A. McFarland, Jr., Samuel H. Hassell, Leonard H. Bell, Mrs. Leonard H. Bell, Stanley G. Williamson.



Deacons

Left to right: David Yow, Vance Trollinger, Herbert Tucker, Hubert Nall, Alton Wyrick, Richard Wilson (seated), Carl Deleuw, Thomas C. Smith (seated), Thomas McAdoo, Leroy Yarborough, Herman Bell, William Gross, William Dixon.



Deacons

Left to right: W. Vance Trollinger, Jr., L.C. Criscoe, S.J. Smith, Jr., Carl Deleuw, Leroy Yarborough, David Yow, Hubert Nall, William C. Gross, Alton Wyrick, W. Herbert M. Tucker, Sr., William S. Dixon, Herman Bell, Eugene S. Horney.



School of the Church Officers

Left to right: Hubert A. Nall, superintendent, Mrs. H. David Yow, secretary, W. Herbert M. Tucker, Sr., assistant superintendent.



Nursery

Derek James Stewart, Mrs. Troy Sutton, William Thomas Thompson.



Nursery

Left to Right: Allison Hoffman, Rhonda Abernathy, Sarah Thompson, Suzanne Osborne, Ann Prater, Jeffrey Nall.



Kindergarten

Left to right: Mark Dixon, Mrs. Stanley Williamson, teacher, Patrick Smith, Jeff Smith, Jenny McKnight.



Grades 1-2

Left to right: Mrs. Herbert Tucker, teacher, Meredith Williams, Allison Austin, Jason Nall, John McKnight, Lucy York.



Grades 3-4

Front row, Left to right: Laura Prater, Amy Vaughan, Jennifer Nall, Laura York, Nathan Austin.
 Second row, Left to right: Brian French, John Trull, Mrs. Hassell, teacher, Brian Haynes, Stephan Hoffman.



Grades 5-6

Left to right: Debbie Osborne, Sonya Burger, Eric Brown, Janice Thompson, teacher, Terri Williamson, Frank McAdoo, Eric Williams.



Grades 7-9

Seated: June Stewart, teacher; standing left to right: David Swaim, Rebecca Russell, Kim Osborne, Janie Smith, Willie Straughan.



Grades 10-12

Left to right: David Swaim, teacher, Noel Williamson, Bruce Yow, Caroline McFarland, Neill Alexander McFarland, III seated, Lisa Yow, Frances Anne McGirt, Craig Williamson, seated, Ken Vaughn, and Eric Sabin.



Seekers Class

Front row – Left to right: Melinda Joyce, Helen Smith, Harriet McKnight, Juanita Nall, Patsy Smith, Katie Witherington, Mrs. Leonard Bell, Ted Hoffman, Judy Hoffman.

Back row – Left to right: Hubert Nall, Janice Thompson, Bill Thompson, David Swaim, Rhonda Abernathy, Scott Alexander, Teresa McGirt, Glenn McGirt, Linda York, Thomas McKnight, James Stuart, Mr. Huffstetler, Marilyn Nowell, Bill Osborne, Martha Osborne, Tom Smith, Martha Swaim.



Inquirers Class

Left to right: Eugene W. Wheeler, Mrs. Duncan McGirt, Duncan McGirt, John W. Marshall, Stanley Williamson, Herman Bell, Mrs. William C. Gross, William Gross, Miss Doris McKnight, Mrs. John W. Marshall.



Ladies' Class

Left to right: Front row – Moir M. Ayers, teacher, Mrs. Leroy Yarborough, Mrs. T. Howard Ward, Mrs. Sula Davis, Mrs. Joseph L. English, Mrs. Richard W. Wilson, Mrs. William S. Dixon, J. Frank Pickard, teacher.
 Second row (seated) – Mrs. Clarence Hinshaw, Mrs. Helen Mills, Mrs. Clarence Nance, Mrs. E.W. Fishburne, Mrs. John Armfield, Mrs. H.C. Lambeth, Mrs. Mary Woodard, Mrs. Sadie Homer, Mrs. George Wyrick, Mrs. Lillian Allen.
 Third row: Miss Virginia Fields, Mrs. Rosa Caruthers, Mrs. Thomas A. McKnight, Mrs. L.C. Criscoe, Mrs. Percy Terrell, Mrs. J.L. Brown, Mrs. W.L. Moore, Mrs. Joseph D. Behm, Mrs. Clarence Smith, Mrs. J.L. Jones, Mrs. Harvey Straughan, Mrs. Thomas E. McKnight, Mrs. E.L. Chambers, Mrs. Harvey Powell, Mrs. Iris Sharpe, Mrs. George Stone, Mrs. Albert E. Donnell, Mrs. Joe W. Walters, Mrs. Lacy D. Wyrick, Mrs. J. Woodrow Culbreth, Mrs. Anna A. Lithgo.



Men's Class

Front row – Left to right: Lacy D. Wyrick, Otis B. Osborne, teacher, William S. Dickson, Clarence P. Hinshaw, Samuel H. Hassell, Leroy Yarborough, Thomas E. McKnight.
Back row – Left to right: H. Clay Lambeth, John W. Medearis, Richard W. Wilson, E.W. Thompson, teacher, Hodgkin Donnell, Alton Wyrick, Julius E. Byrd, T. Howard Ward, Woodrow Culbreth, Jimmie L. Jones.



Fellowship Class

Front row – Left to right: Mrs. Moir M. Ayers, Mrs. J. Frank Pickard, Mrs. John W. Medearis, Mrs. E.W. Thompson, Mrs. Otis Osborne, Mrs. Larry Russell, Mrs. William F. McAdoo, Mrs. Parks Norman Jr., Mr. William F. McAdoo.
 Back row – Left to right: Vance Trollinger, Herbert Tucker, Mrs. Sherman Hines, Mrs. James Walters, Mrs. Elmer Buchanan, Mrs. Alton Wyrick, Mrs. Neill McFarland, Thomas McAdoo, Mrs. Thomas McAdoo, John Walters, Mrs. Hodgkin Donnell, David Yow, Parks Norman.



Covenant Class

Left to right: Charles E. Kerchner, Mrs. Charles E. Kerchner, Carl Deleuw, Miss Louise Summers, Mrs. Harry R. Smith, Harry R. Smith, Leonard Bell.



Members of Buffalo for 50 Years or Longer

Front row – Left to right: Mrs. Milton C. Foust, 1909, Mrs. Paul E. Caddell, 1929, Mrs. Robert W. Andrew, 1926, Mrs. Otis B. Osborne, 1929, Mrs. W.B. Thacker, 1922.

Second row – Mrs. Harold C. Mills, 1916, Mrs. Percy Terrell, 1926, Mrs. Bertha King Frazier, 1926, Mrs. J. Ross Tippet, 1923, Mrs. E.W. Fishburne, 1924, Mrs. Herman Estridge, 1926.

Third row – Mrs. Rosa Carruthers, 1917, Miss Virginia Fields, 1918, Mrs. Carlotta Barnes Jacoby, 1916, Mrs. E.W. Thompson, Jr., 1926, Mrs. Tom A. McKnight, 1916, Mrs. T.K. Causey, 1926, Mrs. George D. Wyrick, 1923, Mrs. Jimmie L. Jones, 1917, R.H. Souther, 1921.

Fourth row – Ralph Tippet, 1931, John W. Medearis, 1923, John W. Marshall, 1927, Julius Byrd, 1926, Harry R. Smith, 1916, Austin Hancock, 1911, Elmer McAdoo, 1931, T. Howard Ward, 1931.



You Went to Sleep?!



After the close of the Sunday Morning Worship Service, the people still greet their friends and visit with one another. This has long been a tradition at Buffalo.
"The Lord bless thee and keep thee; the Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee, The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and give thee peace."

Numbers 6: 24-26

